

DODWORTH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

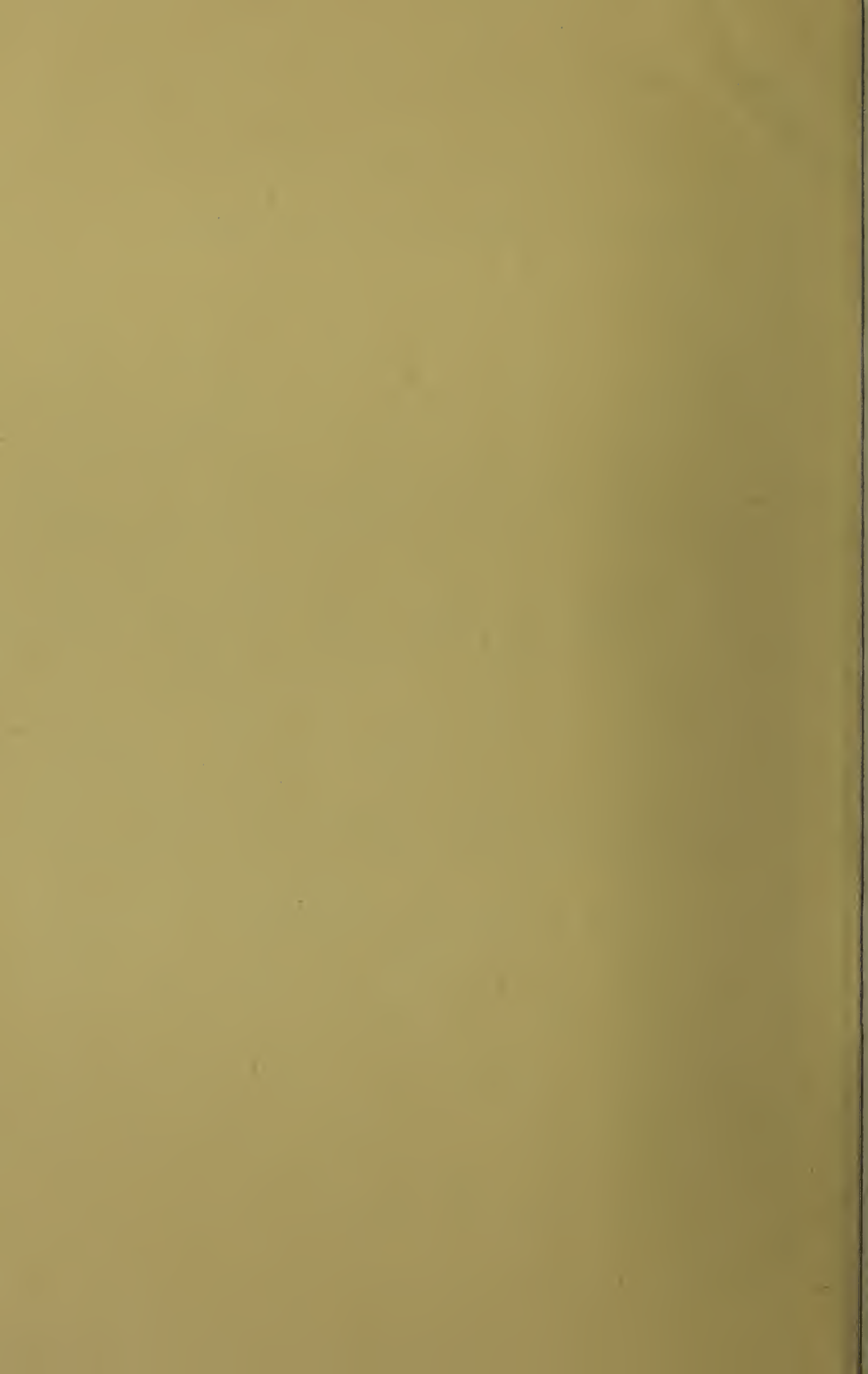
ANNUAL
REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year 1948

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The Gables,
WOMBWELL,
Nr. Barnsley.
July, 1949.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and social conditions of your Urban District for the year 1948. This is my second Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health. The report is written in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 3/49 and is in the nature of an interim report only.

The Vital Statistics for the year were uniformly good, all mortality rates shewed a decrease as compared with the previous year and the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases was lowered. The Birth rate shewed a very appreciable fall from 25.1 per 1,000 estimated resident population in 1947 to 18.6 in 1948 and compared with 17.9 for the country as a whole. The fall in the birth rate was general throughout the country and reflects, I think, on the very difficult housing problems every section of the population is experiencing. The death rate was reduced from 9.2 per 1,000 estimated resident population of the previous year to 8.9 compared with 10.8 for England and Wales. The actual number of deaths for all ages in the district was 31 while the total number of live births was 79 giving a natural increase of births over deaths of 48. Both the infant mortality rate and the still birth rate fell and both rates were well below those of the country as a whole, a finding which is most pleasant to record and which speaks well for our Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

The number of notifiable infectious diseases reported shewed an appreciable decline from the previous year, 78 cases as compared with 112, mainly due to the lowered incidence of Measles. But it is as well to admit that as yet we have no prophylactic which will prevent an epidemic of measles among the child population and as the epidemic cycle of measles is usually every 2 years we must expect marked fluctuation in the annual incidence of infectious diseases. Fortunately the virus of measles is of relatively low virulence, we can only hope it will always remain so but we must continue with our efforts to obtain a potent prophylactic. One case of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis occurred in an infant of 9 months, unfortunately of extreme severity and which proved rapidly fatal.

I am indebted to your Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, Mr, H. Strutt for his report on the sanitary conditions of the district for 1948 which I have included at the end of my report.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. S. HYND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER FOR 1948

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	1,857 acres.
Population (Census 1931)	4,245
Registrar-General estimate of Resident Population mid 1948 ...	4,248
Number of inhabited houses	1,131
Rateable Value	£15,128/0/0
Nett Product of a Penny Rate ...	£54/12/3

Coal mining is the only industry in the township apart from Agriculture.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.

Live Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	37	31	68
Illegitimate	6	5	11
Totals	43	36	79

The number of live births registered shows a decrease of 25 on the previous year with a birth rate of 18·6 per 1,000 resident population as compared with 25·1 for 1947. The birth rate per 1,000 resident population for England and Wales was 17·9 as compared with 20·5 in the previous year. In examining the live birth figures one cannot fail to notice the appallingly high incidence of illegitimate births, over 15% of the total births registered. It would be most unfair to pass any comment on this subject without examining in detail all possible causes including adverse social conditions but such a high illegitimate birth rate must be a matter of concern for all interested in the moral welfare of the district.

STILL BIRTHS :

Still Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	—	1	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Totals	—	1	1

The Still birth rate per 1,000 population for Dodworth was 0.23 and compares very favourably with that of 0.42 for England and Wales.

Deaths.

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths	19	12	31

The total is 7 less than in 1947. 11 of the total deaths occurred in hospital.

Death rate per 1,000 population for Dodworth ... 8.9

Death rate per 1,000 population for England & Wales ... 10.8

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1948.

Causes of Death	Male	Female
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	—	1
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	—	—
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	—	—
8. Syphilitic Diseases	—	—
9. Influenza	—	—
10. Measles	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	—	1
12. Acute Infantile encephalitis	—	—
13. Cancer of buc. cav. oesoph (M) uterus (F)	—	—
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	1	—
15. Cancer of breast	—	1
16. Cancer of all other sites	2	1
17. Diabetes	—	—
18. Intracranial vascular lesions	1	1
19. Heart Diseases	4	3
20. Other diseases of circulatory system ...	—	—
21. Bronchitis	3	—
22. Pneumonia	—	—
23. Other respiratory diseases	—	—
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	—	—
25. Diarrhoea, under 2 years	—	—
26. Appendicitis	—	—
27. Other digestive diseases	—	—
28. Nephritis	1	3
29. Puerperal and post-abortion. sepsis ...	—	—
30. Other Maternal Causes	—	—
31. Premature birth	—	1
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile diseases	—	—
33. Suicide	1	—
34. Road traffic accidents	1	—
35. Other violent causes	4	—
36. All other causes	1	—
All causes	19	12

Deaths in Age Groups.

	Male	Female	Total
Under 1 year	—	3	3
1—5 years	—	—	—
5—10 „	2	—	2
10—15 „	—	—	—
15—20 „	—	—	—
20—25 „	1	—	1
25—35 „	1	2	3
35—45 „	1	2	3
45—55 „	2	—	2
55—65 „	1	1	2
65—70 „	5	1	6
70—75 „	3	1	4
75—80 „	1	—	1
80—85 „	1	2	3
85—90 „	1	—	1
90 and over	—	—	—
TOTALS	19	12	31

Infantile Mortality.

There were two deaths during the year of infants under the age of one year giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 25 per 1,000 live births, the lowest ever recorded in the district. One death occurred within the first week of life in a premature infant and the other in a 9 months old child due to Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis. This continued low infantile mortality not only reflects credit on the Maternity and Child Welfare Services but reflects equal credit on the improved standard of Mothercraft in the district.

Maternal Mortality.

I am pleased to be able to report that again this year, as in the past two years, there was no death attributable to maternal causes.

A Comparison of Infantile Death Rate of Dodworth and England and Wales for Years 1939 to 1948.

Year	Dodworth	England and Wales
1939	86	57
1940	57	55
1941	58	59
1942	36	49
1943	43	49
1944	56	46
1945	153	46
1946	60	43
1947	29	41
1948	25	34

Total of Births & Deaths in Dodworth for Years 1939-1948.

Year	No. of Births	No. of Deaths
1939	78	47
1940	70	45
1941	86	45
1942	83	36
1943	92	39
1944	89	36
1945	78	52
1946	100	38
1947	104	38
1948	79	31

PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1948.

Based on Registrar General's Figures.

	Dodworth Urban District	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England & Wales (provisional figures)
Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated pop.) ...	18.6	18.3	18.5	17.9
Death Rates (all per 1,000 estimated pop.)				
All Causes	7.3	11.8	11.3	10.8
Zymotic Diseases (7 principal)	0.00	0.12	0.12	not available
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	0.00	0.37	0.37	0.34
Other forms of tuberculosis	0.00	0.07	0.07	0.07
Respiratory diseases (excluding tuberculosis of resp. system)	0.71	1.34	1.29	not available
Cancer	1.18	1.83	1.74	1.86
Heart & circulatory diseases	1.65	3.98	3.73	not available
Infant Mortality (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)	25	38	39	34
Diarrhoea (Deaths in infants under 2 yrs. per 1,000 live births)	—	4.17	4.38	3.3
Maternal Mortality (Deaths of mothers in childbirth per 1,000 live and still births)				
Puerperal Sepsis ...	—	0.09	0.10	0.24
Other causes	—	1.02	1.05	0.78
TOTAL	—	1.11	1.15	1.02

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death Rate, and Case Rates for certain Infectious diseases in the year 1948.

England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	Dodworth U.D.C.	England and Wales	126 C.B's & great towns including London	148 smaller town, resident population 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 census	London Admin. County
	Rate per 1,000 civilian population				
Births:					
Live	18.6	17.9	20.0	19.2	20.1
Still	1.10	0.42	0.52	0.43	0.39
Deaths:					
All causes	7.3	10.8	11.6	10.7	11.6
Pneumonia	0.00	0.41	0.38	0.36	0.54
Typhoid and para- typhoid Fever ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ...	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Influenza	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.02
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.00	0.51	0.59	0.46	0.63
Poliomyelitis	0.23	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Notifications:					
Typhoid Fever ...	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0.0	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Scarlet Fever	0.92	1.73	1.90	1.82	1.37
Whooping Cough ...	6.12	3.42	3.51	3.31	3.13
Diphtheria	0.00	0.08	0.10	0.09	0.10
Erysipelas	0.00	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.22
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	10.12	9.34	9.75	8.84	9.17
Pneumonia	0.92	0.73	0.84	0.60	0.57
Poliomyelitis	0.23	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.04
Puerperal Fever & Puerperal Pyrexia	0.00	6.89	3.90	4.71	7.34
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age	25	34	39	32	31
Deaths from Diarr- hoea & Enteritis under 2 years of age	0.00	3.3	4.5	2.1	2.4
Maternal Mortality:	Rate per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still)		Rates per million women aged 15-44		
	Dodworth U.D.	Eng. & Wales			
Abortion with sepsis	0.00	0.11	9		
Abortion without sepsis	0.00	0.05	4		
Puerperal Infection	0.00	0.13			
Other maternal causes	0.00	0.73			

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE.

Since 5th July, 1948 all hospitals have become under the control of the Regional Hospital Board with your district lying in the area served by the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. It is accepted by the majority that the unification of all hospitals under one central authority is a step forward allowing as it does hospital accommodation and administration to be viewed as a whole by one competent authority instead of piece meal as in the past by multiple authorities often competing against each other. It is hoped the new hospital authority will keep firm its intention of scaling all hospitals to the highest and steadfastly refuse to accept the mediocre even as a matter of expediency. It is as yet too early to pass opinion on the success or otherwise of the new arrangement, as far as I am competent to judge, it has worked well for Dodworth patients save in the chronic sick. Bed accommodation for such patients has been extremely difficult to obtain and it is hoped the local Hospital Management Committee will do everything in its power to improve the existing arrangements.

HOSPITALS:

(a) General.

General hospital services are provided through the Beckett Hospital and St. Helen Hospital, Barnsley. The general hospitals at Sheffield are also available when required.

(b) Infectious Disease Hospital.

Cases of Infectious diseases continued to be admitted to Kendray Hospital, Barnsley though after 5th July 1948 your Council was no longer required to contribute to the maintenance of the patients while in hospital.

(c) Maternity Hospitals.

Maternity cases requiring hospital accommodation were usually admitted to the following hospitals, the majority of patients being admitted to the first named.

St. Helen Hospital, Barnsley.
Hallamshire Maternity Hospital, Chapeltown.
Listerdale Maternity Home, Rotherham R.D.
Pindar Oaks Maternity Home, Barnsley.

The services of the Jessop Hospital, Sheffield, were also available for abnormal obstetric cases.

Tuberculosis Scheme.

Administrative changes in the Tuberculosis Service occurred after 5th July, 1948 though they had little, if any, practical effect. After that date the responsibility for the service, which previously rested wholly with the County Council, was divided between the County Council and the Regional Hospital Board. The former became responsible for the preventive and after-care side while the latter assumed responsibility for the clinical and curative aspects. The division of responsibility was an unfortunate consequence of the National Health Service Act, but one which was unavoidable. Tuberculosis cannot be divided into water-tight clinical and preventive compartments, the disease must be considered as a whole. That the changes had little, if any, practical effect was because the closest co-operation between the Tuberculosis dispensary and Divisional Health Office has been maintained since July 5th last and will continue to be maintained in the future and until such time as the Service once again becomes under the one central authority.

Clinics are held at the Chest Centre, 46 Church Street, Barnsley on the following days and times :

Wednesdays	10.0 a.m. — 12 noon.	
Wednesdays	2.0 p.m. — 4 p.m.	
Thursdays	10.0 a.m. — 12 a.m.	X-ray.
Thursdays	2.0 p.m. — 4 p.m.	X-ray.
Fridays	10.0 a.m. — 12 noon.	

Veneral Diseases.

The nearest centre for Dodworth patients for the diagnosis and treatment of these diseases is in Barnsley.

Address: Special Treatment Centre, Queen's Road, Barnsley.

Other centres are situated at Rotherham, Sheffield and Doncaster and a patient suffering from Venereal Disease is at liberty to attend at the centre of his choice. Treatment is completely confidential.

Ambulance Service.

The ambulance service is organised by the West Riding County Council and operated from the Hoyland Depot. Since the coming into operation of the National Health Service Act the ambulance service has become entirely free of charge to the public and greatly increased demands have been made on the service. At the time of writing this report figures of the journeys made and patients carried are not available but I am happy to state there has been a considerable improvement in the type of vehicle in operation. One new ambulance with wireless control has been added to the ambulance strength of the Hoyland Depot.

Laboratory Services.

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service in Wakefield, a national service under the control of the Medical Research Council. This service was instituted shortly prior to the outbreak of war and has grown into an invaluable laboratory organisation. Bacteriological and Pathological specimens are sent here for examination, and no matter what type of laboratory investigation is required the laboratory will furnish a complete investigation and report. It is still a growing organisation and even greater results can be expected of it in the future.

Home Nursing.

With the coming into operation on 5th July of the National Health Service Act there was a change of control rather than a change in practice for Home Nursing in the district. From that date the County Council assumed its statutory obligation for the responsibility of providing a Home Nursing Service and the local nursing association agreed to disband. Contracts were entered into for the sale of the Nurses Home and nursing equipment to the County Council and I would like to add my personal thanks to the Committee of the local Nursing Association for the help and encouragement they afforded me to make this change-over as smooth as possible. Nurse Willis, after 12 years of service in the district, decided to retire and Nurse Squires was appointed to fill the vacancy. I would like to add in this report, to the many which have already been expressed, my appreciation of Nurse Willis' services to Home Nursing in Dodworth and wish her many happy years of retirement. She has not lost any of her regard for the welfare of the district and I am glad to say still attends regularly at the welfare clinics. As I have said previously the change in control brought no change in the practice of Home Nursing in the district nor indeed is any radical change contemplated in the future. The only material change has been the enlargement of the scope of Home Nursing now all persons are entitled to the services of a Home Nurse in times of need and it is my intention not to deviate from the accepted principles of the past but to build on the sound foundations so well laid in previous years by the local nursing association.

Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

Maternity and Child Welfare Services are provided by the West Riding County Council and have continued unchanged during the year. Child Welfare clinics are held weekly at the Mechanics Institute, Dodworth on Tuesdays

from 2 p.m. to 4p.m. During the year 48 sessions were held at which there was an attendance of 4,295 children, an average of 89.4 per session. 121 children were seen for the first time, of whom 105 were under the age of 1 year and 16 over one year of age. 909 children were examined by the doctor during the year an average of 18.9 per session.

The Ante-Natal clinics are held on the first and third Thursdays of the month at "Stonehurst" Green Road, Dodworth from 2 p.m. to 4p.m. 24 sessions were held during the year at which 78 women made 322 attendances, an average attendance of 6.7 per session.

The value of both the Welfare and Ante-Natal clinics is obvious and well illustrated by the relevant vital statistics for the year. The health of the mother is maintained during pregnancy, complications avoided or treated in the very early stages and the infant grows up into the healthy child all parents so keenly desire. No matter how efficient the medical personnel of the clinics are good results cannot be expected unless the mothers realise the very great need for adequate ante-natal and infant welfare care and happily for the health of the district I believe this truth is appreciated in Dodworth. May it continue to be so appreciated in the future and the mothers continue to put into practice the advice they receive at the clinics.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Housing.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year was 1131 an increase of 73 over the figure for 1947. 73 new houses were built during the year in the Snow Hill Housing scheme while at the same time every effort was made to obtain the necessary repairs to houses where sanitary defects were proved to exist. The council will be aware that there is still considerable room for improvement in the structural and sanitary conditions of a number of houses in Dodworth and while I'm sure the drive for new houses will continue I trust a drive of equal intensity will be made for the betterment of existing houses.

Water Supplies.

The water supply for the district, which is chlorinated, is obtained from the Barnsley Corporation. The water, which was analysed at regular intervals, was satisfactory both in quality and quantity. All houses in the district receive this piped water supply except one which is supplied from a satisfactory well.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis) during 1948.

	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Measles	43	—	—
Whooping Cough	26	—	—
Scarlet Fever	4	1	—
Pneumonia	4	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	1	1
TOTALS	98	2	1

Diphtheria.

Once again and for the fourth year in succession no case of diphtheria occurred in the district. The overall figure for diphtheria immunization rose to 72% of all children between the ages of 0-15. Of the children below the age of 5 years 42.2% were immunized compared with 91.5% in the age group 5-15 years. I would like to see a much greater improvement in the percentage of children immunized in the lower age group. Diphtheria is a much more serious disease in the very young children than in the older age group and parents should bear this in mind and not wait to have the child immunized until the child goes to school.

Measles.

The incidence of measles was less last year than the previous year though rather higher than the average for previous non-epidemic years. The disease was relatively mild in character and generally was without complications.

Tuberculosis.

For the first time to my knowledge, and I have the Annual Reports and other records dating back to 1935 in my possession, it is possible to report that no cases were notified, and no deaths occurred from Tuberculosis during the year. While this rightly gives just cause for congratulations to all persons, medical and lay-persons alike, working for the health of the district it is well to remember that Tuberculosis statistics for a single year may not give the whole picture and therefore be misleading. Even as I write this report I am aware of the statistics for the first half of the present year and the figures are far from satisfactory. Tuberculosis is truly a social disease and while such predisposing causes as unsatisfactory housing, bad working conditions, financial uncertainty and mental strain etc. exist there can be no let up in the fight against

the disease. I feel confident these matters are constantly in your thoughts and I would like to express my appreciation of the help you have given me in the battle of prevention by giving priority to the housing needs of open cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.



REPORT of the SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year ending 31st December, 1948.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have again the honour to present my Report on the Sanitary circumstances of the district for the year 1948.

Year	Houses	Privies	W.C's.	Waste Water Closets	Pails
1947	1058	25	950	25	3
1948	1131	25	1119	25	3

There were 73 new houses constructed and occupied during the year, all of which form part of the Dodworth Urban District Council's Snow Hill housing scheme.

No houses were closed under the Housing Act, 1936.

No water closet conversions were undertaken during the year.

The privies referred to above are in out-lying districts where it is not possible to get connection to the trunk sewer.

Sewage Disposal.

No adverse reports on the sewage effluent have been received during the year, and careful supervision is maintained over the operation of the sewage works.

It was reported in recent years that subsidence had caused some movement in the settling tanks, but this seems now to have checked.

It is hoped to adjust the balance of the tanks and the filter bed rotating arms during the coming year.

Public Cleansing.

Household refuse is still dealt with by weekly collection, and the system is working satisfactorily.

Controlled tipping is carried out at the Welfare Ground tip.

There have been no instances of insect infestations during the year,

Sanitary Inspections.

25 Informal notices were served on the owners of property to abate general nuisances in the form of house defect. It is my experience that nuisances are usually abated in response to a letter, and notices are only served in cases of non-compliance.

At the end of the year 23 of the notices had been complied with.

Eradication of Bedbugs.

Shortage of staff continues to prevent a systematic campaign against these pests, but where complaints have been received, treatments have been carried out with the use of a liquid spray containing 5% D.D.T., and the results have been satisfactory.

Rodent Control.

A maintenance treatment of the Council's sewers was carried out in the month of December, 68 of the Council's manholes being treated with sausage rusk and 5% zinc phosphide.

Water Supply.

There is only one house in the district which is not supplied with water from the Barnsley Corporation chlorinated supply. This house is supplied from a satisfactory well.

Salvage.

The yield of waste paper for the year was 7 tons 13 cwts.

Milk Production.

There are 12 producers in the district, 3 of which are licensed for the production of Accredited milk. The cowsheds are periodically inspected.

Ice-cream.

There is one ice-cream factory in the district, owned and operated by Mr. F. Whiston at the Toll-Bar, Barnsley Road, Dodworth.

The Factory conforms to the requirements of the Ice-Cream (Heat treatment) Regulations and Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Temperature charts are checked regularly and all results of analyses noted. The fat content. of the ice-cream averages 5%.

H. STRUTT,

Sanitary Inspector.



